

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PER-05 (ISO) W

----- 116115

R 161020Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1546

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOGADISCIO 0049

FOR AF/EX BRADFORD AND PER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: APER SO

SUBJ: PERSONNEL: RETENTION OF GSO POSITION

REF: STATE 7621

1. GLD TO LEARN WILKES' ASSIGNMENT FIRM AND LOOKING FORWARD TO HIS ARRIVAL.

2. AFTER EVALUATING EMBASSY STAFFING NEEDS CAREFULLY OVER PAST THREE MONTHS, STRONGLY URGE GSO POSITION BE RETAINED AT LEAST UNTIL END OF FY-75. I BASE THIS ONE (1) MOGADISCIO IS A POST WHERE BILATERAL PROBLEMS WITH HOST GOVERNMENT (SECURITY, MARINE GUARDS, PROTECTION OF STAFF, FREE ENTRY) CREATE CONTINUING PRESSURE ON MORALE AND NEED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION; (2) WE FORESEE CONTINUING HEAVY RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PROPERTY SECURITY, MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENTS RESULTING FROM DELAYS IN RESUMPTION COMPOUND CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AND DEPARTURE OF FBO SUPERVISOR VALLEJO; (3) EXTRA SUPPORT RESPONSIBILITIES WHICH WILL EXIST THROUGHOUT ANY CONSTRUCTION PHASE; (4) UNAVOIDABLE PHYSICAL DIVISION OF EMBASSY ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OPERATIONS BETWEEN CHANCERY AND NEW COMPOUND UNTIL NEW O.B. IS COMPLETED; AND (5) COMPLETION OF RECONCILIATION AND DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY LEFT OVER FROM DAYS WHEN U.S. OPERATION HERE MUCH LARGER.

3. I SHARE YOUR VIEWS ON DESIRABILITY ELIMINATING ALL NON-ESSENTIAL POSITIONS, BUT BELIEVE ELIMINATION GSO SLOT THIS SUMMER

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(LEON SCHEDULED DEPART HL-TR IN EARLY AUGUST) WOULD BE PREMATURE.

HOPE IT POSSIBLE FOR AF AND PER START WHEELS IN MOTION TO LOCATE
COMPETENT GSO, PREFERABLY WITH A WIFE QUALIFIED AND INTERESTED
TO FILL DCM-POL/ECON SECRETARIAL POSITION OCCUPIED BY MRS. LEON.
GIVEN PRESENT DIFFICULT CONDITIONS IN MOGADISCIO, WORKING COUPLES
USUALLY COPE MUCH BETTER THAN SINGLE PERSONNEL.KIRK

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
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